





enough to live in. I don't believe you can have patience to read this long letter; but I haven't told you half; no, not one-half of half. Good-bye, you darling Annie.

"ALICE."

"P.S.—I wish you could just see mamma. It isn't only me that thinks she is so pretty; papa thinks so too. He just sits and looks, and looks at her, till mamma doesn't quite like it, and asks him to look at baby a little."

Ellen's first letter was short. Her heart was too full. She said at the end—"I suppose you will both laugh and cry over Alice's letter. At first I thought of suppressing it. But it gives you such a graphic picture of the whole scene that I shall let it go. It is well that I had the excuse of the surprise for my behavior, but I myself doubt very much if I should have done any better, had I been prepared for their coming."

"God bless and thank you, dear Sally, for this last year, as I cannot."

These events happened many years ago. My sister and I are now old women. Her life has been from that time to this one of the sunniest and most unclouded I ever knew.

John Gray is a hale old man; white-haired and bent, but clear-eyed and vigorous. All the good and lovable and pure in his nature have gone on steadily increasing; his love for his wife is still so full of sentiment and romance that the world remarks it.

His grandchildren will read these pages, no doubt, but they will never dream that it could have been their sweet and placid and beloved old grandmother who, through such sore strains in her youth, kept her husband!

## Oxford Democrat.

PARIS, MAINE, MARCH 5, 1872.

### The Legislature.

The 51st legislature adjourned finally on Thursday night, about 11 o'clock, having been in session fifty-eight days. The Portland Press, republican, has severely criticised the doings of the legislature from time to time, and has an article on Friday last on the adjournment, headed "Our Bad Legislature and its doings," in which it makes the broad statement that "nine tenths of the session was spent in framing measures in the interests of combined capitalists," and that "Maine is taken from the list of States that are governed by the people, and added to that lengthening roll of States that are governed by capitalists."

An independent, bold and fearless criticism of public men and measures commands respect, and it is especially *placely* for a press to denounce its own party—but for the avenging sword to carry weight, the man who wields it must be above suspicion. The cause of offense, on the part of the Press, is the legislation relative to railroads, which is considered as prejudicial to the sectional interests of the locality where the Press is situated. The Kennebec Journal and Bangor Whig, on the other hand, commend the legislation for its railroad action. It can hardly be expected that the whole State, or whole republican party can look at the legislative acts from the same standpoint as the Portland Press does, and we think wholesale denunciation of the legislators will be taken with considerable allowance.

No doubt there was a strong lobby at work pushing certain railroad projects, and this is not uncommon, nor reprehensible, if no improper means were resorted to to influence members' votes by bribes. One individual, Mr. Wilson, of Thomaston, a democrat, declared in open session, that he was approached for the first time in five years' service as a legislator, with a bribe—but why did he not go farther and have an investigation, and nip this iniquitous proceeding in the bud. Had he any right to stop there? We say no—if he was disposed to shield the guilty party, he should have kept silence. Now, he has no right to do so. We should have had far more respect for him and his party and his sincerity, had he moved an inquiry, with a view of exposing the matter.

For our own part, we don't believe that the legislators of Maine have become so demoralized as to be bought and sold, like cattle. There may be a rare case, but it isn't every man, nor many men, in the last legislature, that it would be safe to approach with a pecuniary consideration for his vote. Certain we are, that the Oxford delegation, in both branches, come out with "clean skirts."

### How the Administration deals with Defaulters.

While it is lamentable true that many delinquency of public officers occur in our nation, it is also true that the republican party has tolerated and punished many delinquents, which is not true of the democratic party. The administration of such immense patronage as our national government is charged with, cannot be looked for, in these degenerated and extravagant times, without many delinquencies. Private business is subject to similar losses—but we defy our opponents to show a case which has come to light, where an official of the U.S. government has not been prosecuted and convicted—while the Tammany ring of thieves, though prosecuted in the Courts, goes unwhipped of justice, owing to the venality of their tools, sitting upon judicial benches.

The following is an analysis of the way the Administration has "gone for" the prominent defaulters of the last two years:

Marcy, naval paymaster, defaulter at Merced Island, California; cashiered.  
Lockwood, Girard and Parker, rural paymasters, defrauded on distant stations; cashiered.  
J. Ledyard Hodge, defaulter in paymaster General's office; in Albany Penitentiary for ten years.  
J. F. Bailey, defaulting Internal Revenue Collector, New York; fled the country to avoid arrest.  
Bowman and Wilson, defaulting Deputy Collector of Customs at Baltimore; convicted and in prison.

J. W. Norton, defaulting Money Order Superintendent, N. Y.; under arrest for trial.

Geo. B. Wellman, defaulting Deputy Collector of Customs, at Savannah; under indictment.

Internal Revenue Collector Gould and Supervisor Kizyancuski, conspiracy to embezzle, Georgia, indicted; former fled the country; latter held for trial.

William Wiggins, defaulting Freedmen's Bureau Agent; convicted and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment.

F. A. Macartney, defaulting Post Office defaulter, died in Insane Asylum before he could be tried.

C. E. Edwins, embezzling Treasury clerk; convicted and in prison.

Seth Johnson, defaulting Treasury clerk; under indictment and will certainly be convicted.

S. B. Kending defaulting disbursing clerk, Interior Department; convicted and in prison.

The responsibility of the appointment of only four of the above seventeen cases rests upon the Administration; but it has inflicted punishment on all who have been tried, while two have fled the country.

### Legislative.

The legislature got through last Friday evening, its closing proceedings being unceremoniously and its legislation, as usual, near the close, hasty. Two hundred and ninety-eight acts and ninety-nine resolutions were passed. The consistency of Mr. Carlton, of Whitefield, who opposed all appropriations, especially for Schools, was seen in his getting through a resolve to increase the pay of members by double mileage.

The State Tax bill provides for a state tax of 1,293,482.71. Among the appropriations are the following: Maine General Hospital \$10,000; Bath Orphan Asylum \$10,000; Agricultural College \$18,000; Penitentiary \$2,000; County Institutes \$1,000.

The County tax of Oxford was changed to \$11,500, instead of 10,000 as reported by the Committee. The estimate of the Commissioners was \$13,000, and this sum should have been taken. The Senate was not concurred with the House, and a Committee of Conference "split the difference."

The fate of the prominent measures before the legislature, not heretofore given, may be briefly stated as follows:

Woman Suffrage came near being a success—the right to vote at Presidential elections passing the House, and being killed in the Senate by a small vote.

The temperance legislation consists of the passing of the Sheriff enforcement act, the restoration of order to the list of prohibited beverages, and the provision making rum-sellers liable for the effect of their traffic.

Solitary imprisonment in the State prison was abolished, but the jail system was lost. The sale of prize packages of candy and Stationery was prohibited. The punishment for Rape and Arson was changed, so as to make it discretionary with the Courts to inflict a less punishment than death therefor. The "mill school tax" passed, to the benefit of county places, but State uniformity of schools was defeated, and the free high school bill also. The Insurance bill was defeated, but the Savings bank taxation bill passed. Fryeburg was not permitted to aid the Maine General Hospital, but there was a "balm" for Gilead, in the resolve in her favor. No appropriation was made for the Industrial school for girls. Compulsory attendance on Schools was also defeated. The shire town of Somerset was changed from Norridgewock to Skowhegan, without submitting it to the people.

The Congressional apportionment bill leaves the district lines as they are at present.

The County tax of Androscoggin is \$30,000, while Oxford is \$11,500. Aroostook took 12,000; Somerset 12,000; Cumberland 50,000; Penobscot and York 30,000 each.

The usual complimentary vote and speeches were made, previous to which Mr. Barker, the poet, expressed himself in the following neat verses, written for the occasion:

Now as we speak the last good-bye,  
One thing my heart inspires,  
You've left no scars upon my soul,  
I trust I've none on yours.

We met like floating planks that touch  
On ocean, lake or river,  
We part to meet, though here or there,  
Within that vast forever.

And when that meeting comes again,  
In this world or the other,  
Each shall be found upon my list,  
Both as a friend and brother.

As usual near the close when the House is waiting for the engrossment of bills, members gave themselves up to sport.

Wilson of Thomaston, introduced a bill to incorporate the "Abel Loom Co.," for speculating, deceiving and fooling dopes &c. A large number of amendments were offered—one authorizing persons to take stock in the Lehigh Railroad Co., with the consent of the Maine Central; another putting the company under the control of the Superintendent of Schools; another making Carlton Treasurer; another authorizing the "widows and orphans" of the Maine Central to exchange their bonds for stock; and another changing the name of the St. Dennis Academy in Whitefield to St. Carlton. Keegan, the Madawaska representative, made a speech in French; and other members gave themselves up to the nonsense of the hour.

### Temperance.

We are glad to hear of a movement in the temperance cause at North Norway. A meeting was held at the School House on Thursday evening last, which was addressed by the chairman, S. Burnham, Esq., Rev. Mr. Tolman of Harrison, A. J. and Samuel Merrill, and others.—Thirty-eight, young and old, signed the pledge. C. W. Ryerson was Secretary. This is a move in the right direction for all communities.

—March didn't come in like a lamb.

### Oxford County Farmers' and Mechanics' Convention.

The Convention met, according to adjournment, on Tuesday, Feb. 28th, at the Court House, in our village. The severity of the weather was such that but few assembled, and an adjournment to afternoon was made.

The afternoon session was also small, but the Convention organized, and proceeded to elect officers, as follows:

William Swett of Paris, President; George E. Gibson of Norway, Recording and Corresponding Secretary; A. M. Carter of Bethel, Treasurer; the President, Ezra Jewell of Woodstock, J. A. French of Norway, A. D. White of Buckfield, I. G. Kimball of Bethel, Executive Committee.

The first topic considered was "The best variety of Potatoes, and best mode of cultivation."

Col. A. D. White of Buckfield, said, he could only give his own individual experience in raising potatoes. He almost always raised them on the soil with once plowing; very rarely plowed twice before planting. His best results have been from manuring in the hill with the coarsest manure; he experimented on light land as follows: In six rows he dropped the manure on the potatoes; in another six he dropped the potatoes on the manure, and spread the manure broadcast upon another six rows. The best result was obtained in the first case, and the next best in the second case. He has usually raised the White Mountain and Orono potatoes; the former has run out with him, but the latter yields well; for a common field potato has raised nothing better than the Orono; he uses all the potatoes he raises on his own farm.

Mr. J. A. French of Norway experimented the past season on the got barrel field twelve square rods, he got a barrel of Phoenix, formerly called the Chamberlain, because Mr. C. had procured from planting the ball or seed of the Orono and had re-produced the variety, and it yielded vastly more than the Orono; he spread two cords of manure to the acre, and put a compost of lime, ashes salt and plaster in each hill, and the result was 32 bushels and 12 pounds. Laplands on the same ground, treated in the same manner, did not do half as well, and Oronos not more than half as well.

Mr. Ellbridge Forbes of Paris, used a compost nearly like Mr. French's, and when the potatoes were dug it was eaked and had like mortar.

Mr. French replied that probably it was not properly composted; that our soils required lime, and this deficiency was the cause of our grain lodging; that in California grain as tall as a man would never lodge.

Geo. E. Hammond of Paris, said he raised Oronos principally on new ground, used plaster and ashes—had planted on land full of witch grass and hoed them three times—got a good crop, say 250 bushels to the acre—tried horse manure, phosphate, plaster and ashes—found the last two the best. Liked Pettengill's horse hoe closed, to cultivate. Usually get 150 bushels on sod land, and 250 from old, manured.

Horatio Austin produced a variety called the Colebrook seedling, which is a nice table potato, better than the Early Rose—tried four rows in his garden with four of Early Rose—got many more of the Colebrook.

V. D. Paris spoke of the Peach Blow variety as the best he had ever raised. Put on ashes, lime and plaster on a field broken up one season and had a good crop and a nice quality; believes the result was obtained by neutralizing the acidity of the new soil with the alkali.

S. W. Pierce, of Norway, said the Early Rose needed sandy land, and they would not rot in that.

Dr. T. H. Brown, of Paris, being called upon said he had not experimented in raising potatoes. He wanted to know what the remark meant that a potato was re-produced from the seed. The seed of the potato, like that of the apple, did not produce like.

J. A. French said it the ball of an Orono would produce other varieties, why not its own? He thinks Mr. Chamberlain of Foxcroft has re-produced the Orono from the seed, and got a better potato, but like the other, and it appears to be a re-producing. Potatoes brought from the eastern part of the State do better here than our varieties.

Dr. Brown thought it was not very practicable, to try to get good seed, by experimenting so much to re-produce a particular kind.

Mr. French said it may not be necessary to get its like, to get a good kind. The best of our potatoes come from the planting of the potato balls. The Colebrook seedling would not sell nearly as well in Boston, because of the color. The whites sell best—Jackson Whites or Oronos.

Ellbridge Forbes, of Paris, said his plan was to break up a piece of land and plant to oats first and then potatoes—would put in rotted manure into hills, when he had it in—manner was to furrow shallow, and the Pettengill horse hoe used, it shut up tight; like hills better than drills—think many farmers seed too freely—7 bushels to an acre—cut small and put 2 in a hill. The Orono and Jackson Whites have been the best varieties. Last year experimented with several kinds—Bresse's Prolific proved the best, yielding a third more—Early Rose, Sebce and Prolific. Think the Early Rose not so good a field potato; better grade.

Col. Swett said that two years ago Mr. Goodale sent him five varieties—two of them didn't try a second time—one, called the Oxford, was like the Orono, and the Johnson, he called the best—he and some seed, to distribute gratuitously to farmers.

W. K. Kimball, Esq., of Paris, said that at the siege of Port Hudson the horses and mules were kept upon green fodder corn and dry corn, and they did remarkably well upon that feed; since then had fed fodder corn to his horse with good results.

Mr. J. A. French of Norway, said horses will do as well on dry fodder corn as on the best of hay; fed 5 lbs. a day with dry corn and oats to horses that worked hard and they did good work and gained flesh. Can raise three acres of fodder corn cheaper than one acre of corn.

Wm. Swett of Paris said, cut the fodder when green and it will not exhaust the soil. Mr. Blake, of Turner, steamed his fodder and hay, the cattle ate all clean and seemed to relish it better; the apparatus for steaming cost \$42.

Jairus K. Hammond of Paris, thinks it better for farmers in this vicinity to plant sweet corn; the corn can be sold at a good price at the canning establishment, and the fodder is superior to fodder corn. He planted a half acre last year to sweet corn, and got 1600 cans, which net about \$60.00, and then got a good lot of fodder.

Capt. Cyranus Shaw of Paris, dressed a piece of ground with barn yard manure, for fodder corn and planted it for four consecutive years and the last year it produced the largest yield.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 28—2d day.

Topic—"Cultivation of all kinds of Fruit."

Mr. Calvin Shedd of Norway, prunes trees to form a top; prunes in the month of March, on the crust; scrapes his trees; has raised from 12 to 1500 bushels of apples from 250 trees; the borer has troubled him the past year; apple trees must be planted in the right place, but trees must be taken care of; does not approve of plowing orchards; digs around his trees, and top dresses with leached ashes. He thinks it is beneficial to the orchards to have small crops occasionally, and prefers our native trees although New York trees do well when taken care of.

Dr. Thos. H. Brown.—Does not talk about fruit, but raises it. It is said that one taking upon an agricultural subject should so speak as if his hearers were ignorant of the subject discussed. The profits of raising fruit is one of the most important points to discuss. Colo says that "seven years we raise fruit the most abundantly," and his experience agrees with the statement. Since the Railroad has been built thinks apples have been raised at a profit; thinks we may average \$5.00 bbl; at this price he believes it a profitable culture; for stock and human beings apples furnish good food, and believes raising apples a good business for the people of Oxford County to embark in; cited causes of failure in locations of orchards. A slow steady growth from year to year is the proper way to have an orchard grow; believes the true way to select trees for an orchard is to choose native seedlings. The manner of setting out trees is important; does not think a large hole is any better than one just large enough to set the trees; would set the roots as they grew—not too deep or shallow—would have them set on a slight hillock and set with but little manure, and that very old; trim the top of the tree to meet the roots. He would always select a time just after a rain to set trees; thinks puddling with water will do them a great injury; thinks the baldwin is the best market apple; the eye governs the markets, and every apple that looks like a Baldwin will sell; the certainty that the balawin will bear and be a good apple makes it a profitable apple to raise. The next best market apple is the R. I. Greening; considers it one of the very best apples raised; the next one is the Northern Spy, but it is a long time in coming into bearing; it must have high culture or the fruit will be inferior; not a fruit to be relied upon unless it has very high culture. In regard to mulching, thinks the apple trees should be managed as the forest trees, believes that a coating of leaves applied over the roots of the trees is all that is required, and the tree will have all the food it requires.

Mr. S. W. Pierce of Norway, said that ashes applied around the trees will prevent the fruit from cracking.

Mr. E. Forbes of Paris, believes it is impracticable to raise nurseries in Oxford County on account of the deep snow of winter breaking down the young trees.

Dr. Thos. H. Brown, in reply to Col. Swett, said that he would have trees wherever he could get them, but would get native trees at any cost in preference to foreign trees.

Mr. A. D. White of Buckfield, believes that we are paying too much for trees; thinks they can be raised at one quarter the price demanded for New York trees; is confident that apple trees can be raised in this County as well as any where.

Mr. H. E. Hammond of Paris, planted a nursery about twenty years ago and since then has set them from time to time, and they have done well; the baldwin trees that he budded in the nursery have grown as well as any trees he has; thinks the best trees are those that come up about the pastures and fields.

[Conclusion next week.]

**Farmers' Club—Norway.**  
Club met Feb. 22, and was called to order by Sumner Burnham, Esq., President of the Club. After going through with the usual preliminaries, C. W. Ryerson was called upon to give his method of feeding his stock the present winter. Said that he fed three times a day on meadow hay and straw, gave a fair foddering each time, and one quart of clear meal morning and night; his cows have gained, look better than previous winters. Feeds his horses from eight to ten lbs. of hay per day, and two quarts of corn each morning and night; horses look nicely, and drive well on the road.

S. Frost said that he believes there is a great deal of nutriment in clear meal; had fed it at the rate of ten or twelve quarts per day with but very little hay to his horse; never had a horse do better, was the fattest horse he ever saw.

Others made the same remarks; believed clear meal equal to oats; had rather have it to feed to his horse. S. Patridge said that a man told him that he was feeding one bushel chopped hay, and six

quarts of oats a day, and his horse is looking well.

Geo. E. Gibson feeds his stock on swale hay with a few potatoes; stock never looked better; oxen eat swale hay better than upland hay; do not understand it. S. Burnham said that a gentleman from Augusta was feeding his horse on one peck chopped straw mixed with three or four quarts of shorts to a feed, three times a day; horse is looking first rate.

Wm. Hall thinks it much better to feed young stock with corn on the cob; believes there is a great deal of nutriment in cobs—they cause the bones to grow much better than clear meal.

Wm. Green says his cattle eat swale and low land hay better than good upland; think that the grasshoppers injured the better grasses.

The time having arrived to discuss the question, the general discussion ended. The question—Resolved, That the raising of potatoes pays the farmers of Norway better than any other cultivated crop, was opened by C. W. Partridge; did not believe it cost one half so much to raise an acre of potatoes as corn; believes two and one-half bushels potatoes worth one bushel of corn; do not think that they sap the land more than corn.

J. A. Bolster thinks a bushel of corn worth three of potatoes; raise one hundred bushels of potatoes to the acre; raise much greater value of corn to the acre; corn does not sap the land near as much as potatoes, and leaves it in a much better condition for future crops.

C. W. Ryerson raised 150 bushels potatoes to the acre, and raised 50 or more of corn, besides beans, pumpkins and corn fodder; calling the potatoes worth 50 cents, and corn \$1.00—which I believe to be the relative proportion for ten years past (that is, potatoes half the price of corn) and there will be but a slight difference to the acre; but believing one bushel of corn to feed, equal to three of potatoes, will leave quite a surplus in favor of raising corn. Wm. Green planted one and a half acres of potatoes, and raised three hundred bushels, and ten bushels of peas; believed that he could not raise one-half that value in corn.

Wm. Hall manures his land with the same for potatoes as for corn; does not manure in the hill with anything but ashes, plaster and phosphate. Can plant an acre of corn as easy as an acre of potatoes; thinks the corn crop leaves the land in much better condition for grass; believe potatoes draw very hard from the soil; corn feeds more from the atmosphere, therefore is a much more profitable crop to raise.

A. J. Merrill, who resides in Buckfield, can raise four bushels of potatoes cheaper than one of corn; believes the potato crop far more profitable in our section than corn, and believes it costs twice as much to raise an acre of corn as potatoes.

Geo. E. Gibson does not believe that the corn crop will average more than twenty-five bushels to the acre in this section of country. Potatoes sap the land worse than corn, and he has it from good authority, that while potatoes draw largely from the potash that is in the soil, that corn will not require more than one-third as much, and therefore will leave the land in much better condition for grass. L. Hathaway coincided with Mr. Gibson.

S. Frost rather have an acre of corn-fodder, well cured, than the best acre of hay that ever grew. Wm. Hall gets two crops of corn on land after a crop of corn in one season, and only one after potatoes. Jacob Parsons gets more bushels of corn to the acre than potatoes.

There were other gentlemen present who made some very interesting and instructive remarks. We had a good and highly instructive meeting. Question for next meeting: Resolved, That the cultivation of fruit is of more profit than any other field crop. Disputants—Wm. M. Green, affirmative; C. W. Ryerson, Geo. E. Gibson, negative.

The Club met on the 28th inst., and had a good meeting, which we have not space to report this week.

Subject for next meeting: "What kinds of stock are the most profitable for farmers of this vicinity to raise?"

### Boston Correspondence.

Work for the "Jubilee" progresses rapidly.—Seven of the most difficult choruses to be sung have been printed for distribution among the singers.

Messrs. J. H. Wilcox & Co. have the contract for its Organ, which they design to make the most magnificent on this continent. It will have two manuals of sixty-one notes compass each, and a pedal of thirty-one notes. Fifteen full stops for the first manual, eight in the second, and six in the pedal—two octave compass, and mechanical appliances for controlling the stops by pedals and otherwise. A pneumatic lever will be applied to every key and register throughout, and an electric communication from the key-boards to the organ. The instrument will stand in the rear of the Chorus, while the Organist will sit near the Conductor's stand. The services of a Hungarian Band have been offered and accepted by the Gilmore. The orchestra proper will consist of one thousand pieces, which, with the support of twenty or thirty military Bands will swell the number to two thousand. The "Anvil Chorus" a fixed fact.—Messrs. Moseley and Hodgman, iron merchants, having liberally offered to furnish all the anvils needed. The contract for the construction of bridges over Huntington Avenue and Newton street, has been awarded to C. H. Parker & Co. of Rockport, the work to be completed by the 10th of April—cost to be about \$100,000. The societies enrolled, up to the present time, number one hundred and thirty six.

The Massachusetts Poultry Association are holding a Fair at Music Hall, Upwards of \$2,000 to be awarded in prizes. The fowls tribe are fully represented, and the echoes of the Temple of Music are awakened by clarion notes never heard before in that classic retreat.

MARION.

### Waterford.

The members of Mt. Tirm Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, at Waterford, repaired to their Lodge Room on the evening of the 27th ult., accompanied by their ladies and invited friends, where the officers for the ensuing year were installed by Past Master A. S. Kimball:

A. S. Haggood, W. M.; D. P. Bibeer, S. W.; C. R. Meserve, J. W.; C. Hough-ton, Treas.; S. W. Cobb, Sec.; W. W. Watson, S. D.; B. Tucker, Jr., D.; C. S. Green, S. S.; J. Woodward, Jr., J. S.; W. Douglas, Tyler.

After the conclusion of the installation services, the company adjourned to the Bear Mountain House, where nine host, Houghton, spread one of his most beautiful tables in Luther's best style, (and people here know what that means)

After satisfying the wants of the inner man, the party adjourned to the Hall and tripped the light fantastic toe till the small hours of the morning, when it was voted that Luther knows how to do it; and that the interest of Masonry shall not suffer in Waterford during the coming year.

### West Paris.

The Little Androscoggin Lodge 1. O. of G. T. installed the following officers for the present quarter, Saturday night, 17th inst.—David I. Black, L. D.:

T. E. Stearns, W. C. T.; Mary Hammond, W. V. T.; E. B. Humphrey, W. S.; Lilla Jackson, W. F. S.; Geo. F. Marshall, W. T.; Geo. A. Briggs, W. M.; Mary A. Pratt, W. D. M.; John Brown, W. C.; Amelia A. Churchill, W. L. G.; O. S. Bryant, W. O. G.; Mrs. Geo. F. Marshall, W. R. S.; Mrs. Levi Shedd, W. L. S.; Mrs. O. L. Pratt, W. A. S. David I. Black, Chorister. E. J. Whitman, Editor.

The entertainment given by the Dramatic Club connected with the Lodge of Good Templars at this place on Friday evening was a success in every sense. The drama "Ten Nights in a Bar Room" was played in a manner which gave credit to the actors, and showed that they had thoroughly prepared themselves for the occasion. They will repeat the drama next Wednesday evening. We understand the same music will be furnished as before, which to a lover of good music is worth the price of admission. H.

### North Norway Farmers' Club.

At a meeting of the Club at the School House at Swin's Corner, Feb. 24th, chose E. R. Merrill, President; S. W. Pierce, Vice President; Milton Merriam, Sec.; L. Carter, Treas.; S. W. Pierce, Corresponding Sec.; Wm. French, S. W. Pierce and O. Shed, Executive Com.; S. W. Pierce and L. Carter, Committee on Topics.

The topic that it is more necessary for farmers to meet in associations, than any other class, was opened by J. A. French in the affirmative, and Wm. French, negative. The next question was: Does the farming interest pay? opened by S. W. Pierce.

At the meeting, on Saturday, March 9th, the question relative to the merits of the present school system and the proposed law. S. W. P., Cor. Sec.

### Buckfield.

Charles B. Atwood, of Portland, late of Buckfield, has sold his goods to his son-in-law, John Moore.

A shoe manufactory is to be opened at East Sumner, in the Glover building, the first of April, by Purkis, Cary and Robin. Most of the freight from out to Buckfield is by the way of Auburn Depot.

Hay is increasing in price, and corn in quantity. Farmers are using the greatest economy to keep their stock alive, and "poor old horse, let him die," is the song of many.

Springs are showing signs of failure, Spring never was looked for with more interest than now. Early spring would be hailed with delight by all that have the care of stock. If any animal will pay, for wintering, it will be sheep; it has been a hard winter for hens.

### HARTFORD.

### Maine Central Railroad.

At the annual meeting of the Maine Central Railroad at Waterville on Wednesday, the old board of directors was unanimously re-elected.

The new system now consists of:

Maine Central,	100 miles.
Portland & Kennebec,	110 "
Newport & Dexter,	14 "
Belfast & Moosehead Lake,	33 "
Androscoggin,	33 "
Leeds & Farmington,	38 "
Maine Central Extension,	19 "
	357

The painful accidents of the past year are alluded to by the directors somewhat in detail, and the promise made that every safeguard known to railroad science will be put in requisition to avoid like calamities in the future. The relations with connecting roads are very satisfactory.

—The people of Canton village have just contracted for the erection of a school building 55x30. It will contain three school rooms, with accommodations for above one hundred and seventy scholars. It will cost \$2500, and is to be completed ready for occupation by the first of September. Dr. C. A. Coolidge is the contractor.

### ALBANY, Feb. 27, 1872.

Mr. Editor:—The friends of Rev. S. D. Brown in Gilead, met at the house of S. A. Coffin, Feb. 28d, for the purpose of a donation visit. About sixty were present, and it proved a very enjoyable occasion.

Mr. B. lives at Norway, and preaches here once in four weeks. Judging from their kind words and pleasant faces, we infer there is "balm in Gilead" still. A collection was taken for the pastor amounting to \$32.50.

The proceeds of the Anniversary exercises at Andover, on Feb. 24th, for the benefit of the M. E. Church, amounted to upwards of \$100. All who were present had a good time. The members and friends of the church return many thanks for this unexpected liberality.

### Almost a Fire.

On Thursday last, in the early part of the day, a chimney of Mr. Alvah Shortell's house, at South Paris, burned out, and occasioned some alarm to Mr. S., who had remained at home to watch it. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon, fire was discovered burning through the roof near the chimney, and alarm being given, Mr. S. came out and enquired where the fire was, and was told it was his own roof. He had taken the precaution to place a ladder to the roof, which was now of great service, as a few pails of water extinguished the fire, with but little damage, and before the engine got there.

The chimney, in the attic, was supported at an angle by a plank, and this was ignited. Care should be exercised to clean chimneys of soot at favorable times, by setting them on fire and watching them. Had the fire above, not broken out till night, a considerable fire might have occurred, destroying the Methodist Church, which is close by.

### Wooden Wedding.

Mr. and Mrs







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